Equal Rights

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SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 7, 1931

Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley

Chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, returns to National Headquarters after a successful speaking trip through West Virginia, Ohio and Indiana. She is seen in the garden of Alva Belmont House. Mrs. Wiley reports that Woman's Party Branches in the Middle West are preparing to send large delegations to the Biennial Convention of the Woman's Party to be held in Washington, D. C., December 5, 6 and 7, 1931.

Equal Rights

OFFICIAL ORGAN
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Phone, Vernon 3279

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Ruby A. Black . . . Managing Editor
Dora G. Ogle . . . Business Manager

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution Number 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929, by SENATOR GERALD P. NYE, North Dakota.
Introduced in the House April 25, 1929, by REPRESENTATIVE FREDERICK W. MAGRADY, Pennsylvania.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton

ON NOVEMBER 12, the birthday of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, all Feminists will honor the memory of that intrepid leader of women. Born in 1815, when women were mere chattels under the law, she began even as a child to resent their inferior position. As the years went on she had reason to grow more and more dissatisfied with the unjust laws and traditions which bound women, and in 1848, in Seneca Falls, New York, with the aid of Lucretia Mott, Martha C. Wright, Mary McClintock, and Jane Hunt, called the first Woman's Rights Convention ever held to protest and draw up a charter of rights for women.

It was at this convention that Elizabeth Cady Stanton insisted on the inclusion of the much-disputed suffrage resolution, which, with the help of Frederick Douglas, was finally passed by a small majority. Even Lucretia Mott had objected, saying, "Why, Lizzie, thee will make us ridiculous." This convention inaugurated the almost yearly Woman's Rights Conventions, which continued throughout the century and well into the next until woman suffrage was finally won.

From 1848 on Elizabeth Cady Stanton's all-absorbing purpose was to improve the condition of women. Through her innumerable contributions to newspapers and magazines and her eloquent speeches before Legislative and Congressional committees, before Woman's Rights Conventions, at mass meetings, and on the Lyceum circuit, she more than any other woman, except her devoted friend and co-worker, Susan B. Anthony, helped to change public opinion and to rouse women out of their apathy and inhibitions. Utterly unfettered by tradition herself and very liberal in her religious views, she often in later years clashed with the more conservative suffragists who wanted to plod along in what seemed to them the safe and more lady-like way.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, a forerunner of the militant suffrage movement, liked to forge thunderbolts. She realized perhaps better than any other Feminist that even when women won the ballot they would not use it effectively until they had freed themselves from feminine traditions and developed more self-respect. Time has proved that she was right. Woman is still her own worst enemy.

In 1850 Elizabeth Cady Stanton wrote these lines, which may well be the watchword of our modern Feminist movement, "Take down every barrier in woman's way, and let her find her own sphere."

Equal Rights A Practical Issue

LAST week we had the pleasure of commenting editorially on the resolution adopted by the Business Women's Legislative Council of California at its second Biennial Convention endorsing the Equal Rights Amendment. This week we have the additional pleasure of presenting to our readers a somewhat similar resolution recently adopted by the California Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. The following resolution indicates that self-supporting women are becoming aware of the significance of Equal Rights in terms of their every-day lives:

WHEREAS the California Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs believes that women in the professions, in business and in industry shall be free to work and be protected as workers on the same terms as men; and

WHEREAS the California Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs has in successive conventions opposed legislation that placed restrictions upon women workers that did not apply to men; and

WHEREAS the California Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs believes that all legislation and restrictions, such as hours of work, time and place of work, should be based upon the nature of the work and not upon the sex of the worker; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That this Twelfth Annual Convention of California Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs urge its Federation to continue its vigilance in watching and opposing all future proposed legislation that applies only to women employed in gainful occupations until such time as an amendment to the Constitution of California is adopted, that "Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the State of California."

The Campaign in Geneva: A Summing-Up

By Emily M. Smith

THE campaign waged so energetically, one may say passionately, in Geneva before the Assembly of September, 1930, and the Council of January, 1931, to secure equality in nationality of women with men in the new World Code, which the Hague Convention failed to accord, has scored its third success in the action of the Assembly of this year in passing the resolution on nationality recommended by the First Commission of that body.

This resolution requests the Council to ask the government members of the League of Nations to submit their observations on the question of the nationality of women for reconsideration by the Thirteenth Assembly. The resolution does not definitely extend the life of the Women's Consultative Committee, but does provide that any observations that the said committee may wish to present will be communicated to the Assembly. It thus makes less difficult the task of getting before the organs of the League the views and wishes of women on this vital question, a task which has required hitherto an immense amount of energy, persuasion, and determination. Furthermore, the rapporteur of the Resolution, in his remarks before the Assembly, appended to the resolution for presentation to the Council, declared that the right accorded to the committee to present its views implies the desire that the Women's Committee continue its existence.

This liberal interpretation of the resolution was due to the work of Marta Vergara, who has contributed so much to the success won thus far. As the Chilean representative on the First Commission on this question, she proposed as an amendment to the British proposal, which formed the basis of the resolution as passed, that the Women's Consultative Committee be continued in its consultative capacity. The British proposal had made no mention of the continuation of the committee. It was the Chilean amendment which made that proposal acceptable to women. Though regretting that the continuation of the Women's Committee was not definitely stated in the resolution as passed, the committee are determined to make what they have won as effective as what they had wished to have.

To the excellent leadership of Frau Lilian von Matsch of Austria, chairman of the committee in charge, and to Elizabeth Marny, of Glasgow, acting secretary, a large measure of the success achieved is due. Margaret Whittemore, of California, with her wonted acumen and tact, often found ways to proceed when the road seemed blocked. Mrs. Drummond, of London, was untiring in her efforts to persuade the British delegation to support the women's resolution. She succeeded in getting their endorsement for the reconsideration of the question of nationality, and so opened the way to the presentation of a British proposal to this First Commission, a thing which had an enormous influence in gaining the support of other countries.

Despite the faith, the loyalty, and devotion that entered into this struggle for equality, there were moments of depression and even of pessimism. It was just at one of the blackest of these that Marta Vergara arrived in Geneva, endowed with full power by her government to press to the utmost a resolution to enable women in all the world to enjoy the complete equality in nationality which the Chilean women possess. The Chilean delegation was instructed to give her its full support and to assign to her a place on the First Commission when the question of nationality was under consideration.

THE women delegates to the Assembly, with one exception, zealously supported all measures designed to bring about equality in nationality. It had been planned by the Women's Consultative Committee to secure as many instructed delegations from the governments as possible. The time was too short to make an effective campaign for this purpose, but a number of governments did give such instructions. Austria sent such specific instructions after the delegation had reached Geneva, to support a resolution looking to equality in nationality for women. Austria's action is doubtless due in no small measure to the influence of that venerable and well-beloved Feminist Frau Hainisch and also to that of Frau von Matsch. The Danish Government depended on Henni Forchhammer to "keep her eye on it." Though Norway was one of the three States that had ratified The Hague Convention, Ingeborg Ass, a member of the Norwegian delegation, favored a revision of that convention.

In the "Equality Group," which was photographed a few days after the beginning of the sessions of the Assembly, were Dame Edith Lyttleton of Great Britain, Dr. Ethel Osborne of Australia, Mrs. Henry Plumptre of Canada, Miss Forchhammer of Denmark, Clara Campoamor of Spain, Countess Apponyi of Hungary, Sofija Ciurlionis of Lithuania, Anna Czelagowska of Poland, Princess Cantacuzene of Roumania, Kerstin Hesselgren of Sweden; Fantiska Plaminkova of Czechoslovakia. With them was Begum Shah Nawaz of India, one of the greatest of the women leaders of her country and a member of the Anglo-Indian Round Table.

On the day that "Nationality" appeared on the program of the First Commission, representative women from all parts of the world filled the space alloted to the public. Around the committee tables, also, sat many women delegates, members of the committee for the discussion of this question. You might have thought that you had by mistake blundered into a meeting of the Fifth Commission, to which all women delegates are shunted, no matter what their training, their interest, or their experience may be. It is just the instinct of men to put women to the "cleaning up" jobs of the world. They never do like to clean up their own messes. Women do not like them either, but "needs must" in this unfair world.

YOU would have known as soon as you entered the committee room that something unusual was on the tapis. An unaccustomed air of expectancy and animation pervaded the room, an atmosphere charged with feeling, which emanated from the presence of so many to whom this question involved a principle which touched them to the quick.

Dame Edith Lyttleton, in the name of the British Government, presented a resolution asking for the reconsideration of The Hague Convention bearing in mind the principle of equality in nationality. In speaking to the resolution, she defined unity of the family as meaning in men's minds, "autocracy of the man, enforced by dogma and law," and declared that the family is broken up much more frequently by men than by women. Unity of the family is in no way impaired by equality in nationality, she declared.

Marta Vergara withdrew her resolution subject to a drafting alteration which should continue the Women's Consultative Committee in its consultative capacity.

Frau Von Zahn-Harnack of Germany, Mr. Hoffinger of Austria, Miss Forchhammer of Denmark, Mr. Guthrie of Canada, Mr. Winter of Czechoslovakia, Count Apponyi of Hungary, and Sir Annepu Patro of India, spoke for their governments in support of the British proposal.

Mme. Shonfeld of Holland said that her government considered The Hague Conventions containing the maximum of equality realizable by international agreement. Mr. Rundstein of Poland and Mr. Politis of Greece, father and foster-father, one may say, of the convention were unwilling that sacriligious hands be laid upon their child, "the sole light of hope left for the future (of codification) of international law," as Mr. Politis so poetically described it. In plainer words, be-

cause no tangible result issued from the other two committees of the Codification Conference, this must remain though it quench the hope in women's hearts and strangle their faith in men's justice.

Mr. Politis was willing that the governments be asked to express their views on the subject and that the Women's Committee also be invited to do the same.

Mr. Giannini of Italy declared that he would speak impartially and frankly so as to dissipate the confusion in the minds of many. So he impartially said that women were formidable with the vote, but as he was not a candidate for office (women in Italy have not the franchise) he was not afraid of them. He then frankly, one may say tactlessly, mentioned that the head of the United States' delegation to The Hague Conference told him that for "electoral reasons" he could not sign the convention. Impartially, he added that the theories advanced by the Women's Committee were distorted and that their grouping of the laws on nationality was misleading. Lastly, he judicially declared that a womon must expect to give up her liberty if she wished to marry and have children; if she would rather be independent she must remain single.

Closure was moved before all who wished had had an opportunity to speak. This was especially disappointing to Miss Campoamor of Spain, as she wished to respond to some of the arguments of the opposition. Miss Campoamor is a brilliant orator and an ardent Feminist. Spain, the youngest of republics, will soon be in the front ranks of progress, if she makes use of the genius and talents of her women, as she promises to do.

It was a great disappointment that a woman was not appointed *rapporteur,* and that there was no woman put on the drafting committee, appointed by the chairman, to give due consideration to the various amendments proposed. Mr. Beckett of Great Britain, Mr. Cassin of France, and Mr. Politis of Greece were the members. Consequently more consideration was given to the sensibilities of the fathers of the convention and to obsolescent laws, dogmas, and assumptions than to the cry of women for justice.

The resolution, as drafted by the committee, was passed the next day as the best that could be obtained at the time, though it was not satisfactory to the sincere advocates for equality.

When Mr. Beckett presented the report on nationality to the Assembly, he interpreted the rather vague phrase in the resolution, "to which any observations the above mentioned committee thinks fit to present," as implying a desire on the part of the Assembly that the Women's Consultative Committee should keep itself in being in order that it might present its observations in compliance with this request.

Four women spoke to the resolution: a new record for women on the platform of the Assembly. Their speeches were brief, pithy, pungent, and witty. It would not be a bad thing for men to sit up and take notice and resolve to follow the example set. The speakers were Dame Edith Lyttleton, Marta Vergara, Clara Campoamor, and Ethel Osborne.

The committee in charge of the work to carry out the recommendation of the Women's Consultative Committee, under the chairmanship of Frau von Matsch, made its report, closed its books, and adjourned, having well discharged its task.

President's Committee Urges Ousting Married Women

By Ruby A. Black

AGAIN the administration, through its unemployment relief organization, has approved discrimination against women as a means of relieving unemployment.

This time the Committee on Employment Plans and Suggestions of the President's Organization on Unemployment Relief has suggested the discharge of married women in public service—Federal, State, and local—as a means of "spreading" employment. Furthermore, in recommending giving preference to persons with dependents, the committee listed unmarried women with dependents, but not married women with dependents, among the classes which should, under its suggestions, be given preference in employment.

This committee's long report contained the following, headed "Recommendation No. 5," and dealing with Civil Service under the subhead, "Conclusion No. 5":

"As distinguished from private employment, there is a vast group in Federal, State and local public service under civil service appointment which in general has not felt the pinch of unemployment, nor been called upon to share their hours of work.

"If a truly concerted national effort is to be attained, this group, representing one of the largest single blocs of labor, must be called upon for their fair contribution.

"This committee urges upon the elected and appointed officers of the Federal, State and municipal governments and the heads of all departments to at once enter into an appraisal of the facts and to make a definite effort to contribute to the general objective.

"It would be difficult to advance effective argument for further extension by industry of spread of work opportunity in private employment if public servants decide to adhere rigidly to the rights and privileges afforded them by strict interpretation of the laws and regulations under which they work.

"The field of employment in America under civil service appointment represents one of the greatest single units of labor in this or any other country. It can be conceded that except for well understood situations, the group is one in which employment not only has not decreased in the depression but which as a general condition has tended to increase.

"The committee believes that the rank and file of this group would be responsive to a general program for spreading employment and its practical application to the group would lend great encouragement for private enterprise to extend its sacrifice.

"Omitting the special technical positions which cannot be shared, there remains a vast reservoir in which productive action may be had—wives whose husbands earn sufficient for normal requirements, sons and daughters living at home and having no necessity to contribute their earnings to the family budget, duplicated jobs, and finally the great mass of partly skilled and unskilled labor.

"Teachers holding regular day assignments are being used in some cases also for work in night schools, while others capable of filling these extra assignments are without employment.

"In certain Federal departments, prewar regulations which severely restricted employment of married women have been so amended as to now permit their employment.

"These examples are selected only as instances of situations which offer immediate opportunity for emergency spread of employment.

"As an important element in the working population, this public employment category should be the first to recognize voluntary their responsibility in the general plan. If statutory restrictions prevent extension or spread of employment, such statutes should be suspended for a specified period, without prejudice to essential public rights or to private rights such as seniority preference and retirement benefit.

"The committee is informed and believes that much of the opposition in groups to emergency spread, especially in municipal service groups, would be removed if substitute employes were drawn from lists provided by relief agencies dealing with this emergency."

The committee which reached this conclusion and made this recommendation

is headed by Harry A. Wheeler of Chicago. There is no woman on it. The other members are: W. Rufus Abbott, Chicago; Leonard P. Ayres, Cleveland; T. H. Banfield, Portland, Oregon; S. P. Bush, Columbus, Ohio; Fred C. Croxton, Columbus, Ohio; Homer L. Ferguson, Newport News, Virginia; Charles C. Gates, Denver; William Green, Washington, D. C., president of the American Federation of Labor; Edward N. Hurley, Chicago; A. Johnston, Cleveland; H. C. Knight, New Haven; Alexander Legge, Chicago; Wesley C. Mitchell, New York; Matthew J. Sloan, New York; L. R. Smith, Milwaukee; W. A. Starrett, New York; Daniel Willard, Baltimore, who, as president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad once learned how women resent the ousting of married women. His railroad relinquished its agreement with the clerks' union to discharge married women when business and professional women and the National Woman's Party made very evident their objection to such unfair discrimination.

Federal Civil Service officials have made it clear that it is impossible under the Civil Service law to discriminate against women solely because of marriage. The feeling remains, however, that many governmental departments are discriminating against married women regardless of the law.

W. O. Woods, Treasurer of the United States, told me the day the President's committee made this report that he is unalterably opposed to any move to discharge married women, and that he had successfully combatted it in his department. His point of view is that the letter and spirit of the Civil Service law requires him to employ the person most fitted for the job, regardless of sex or marriage, that public employment is not charity but work, that women have as much right as men to be married, that women work for the same reason as men—to support themselves and their dependents. His secretary and many other women in his division of the Treasury are married.

It should be noted that Mr. Croxton, who issued the statement praising the textile mills for discharging women from night work, is a member of this committee. When Mr. Croxton, as acting head of the organization then maintained by the administration for unemployment relief, known as the President's Emergency Committee for Employment, issued this statement, earnest, vigorous, and numerous protests were filed.

A woman recently wrote a letter to a newspaper saying that she would get "a nominal divorce" from her husband before she would give up the job she has held for ten years. She said she loves her husband, but she must have her job, and that she loves it, too.

"C. A. F.," author of a column about Government work and Government workers, called "9 to 4.30" in the Washington *Daily News* on October 30, said of the recommendations concerning married women:

"There are many thousands of married women working for the Government, here and elsewhere. Their number has grown greatly in the past fifteen years. But it is doubtful if their number has grown more greatly than the number of married women in private employment. The changed situation is a result of the new independence of women, and is not restricted to the Government.

"Any survey of the married women in Federal service would demonstrate that no hard and fast rule can be evolved for them as a class. No sense of fairness would justify their dismissal en bloc—even if a single dismissal could be justified.

"The following are actual instances:

"A woman, an expert in a certain science, who receives twice as much salary as her low-paid husband; they have four children to be supported.

"A man and wife, both in Government employment, each receiving about $2,600 a year; but the man is required by a court decree to pay two-thirds of his salary to his first wife for the support of herself and their children.

"A man and wife, both receiving fairly good salaries from the Government; the woman once was dismissed because she was married; but in two weeks she was called back, because the Government pay scale would not allow the employment of a qualified man for the highly technical job she was doing, and is still doing.

"No married woman in Government service deserves the stigma of keeping a needy man out of employment until the facts of the case are known."

Mrs. Walter Ferguson, columnist in the same paper had said on October 28:

"And what could be more childish than to think we can bring back prosperity by firing all the married women? That is nursery reasoning and marks us as the credulous believers of fairy tales. If we proceeded upon this simple sounding theory we should by and by find ourselves in deep legal waters. For such logic, followed to its reasonable conclusion, would mean that every person who did not work from actual necessity should give his job to somebody who did. Then we should be obliged to police the population lest any two members of the same family were wage earners.

"This procedure, I take it, would be hotly resented by men. But it would be as just and fair as a sweeping ousting of all married women from the ranks of industry. Matrimony, after all, has nothing whatever to do with the rights of a citizen. And today women are citizens."

Such recommendations as that made by the President's committee can have no effect in relieving unemployment and cannot contribute to morality. They can achieve only injustice, misery, economic and emotional suffering.

This is but another example of the effort to make women bear the brunt of the unemployment crisis and but another forceful argument for the immediate adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment.

We should also like to call President Hoover's attention to the pertinent resolutions recently adopted by the business women of his State, California, which are published in this issue of EQUAL RIGHTS.

The Spanish Republic and Its Women

By Flora D. de Ferretti

THE Spanish woman has welcomed the proclamation of the Republic with fervent enthusiasm. And there is no doubt that there begins for her, with the new regime, her greatest era of advancement and progress.

The greatly distinguished attorney, Clara Campoamor, says:

"All we women of Spain must collaborate to the utmost of our capacity in the work of the Republic. In 1873 the Republic then established fell because women did not lend it their aid. Our task is to collaborate unconditionally in the work of the men, whether or not they seek our aid."

According to Carmen Burgos, eminent writer and educator, "Women must educate their children, first of all, to make of them worthy citizens of the Republic. We must also demand the vote and exercise it in the full consciousness of citizenship."

Isabel Palensia, well-known publicist, believes: "That the most urgent task of Republican women must be the realization of an intense campaign in favor of the new Government in order to counteract the menace of terrorism."

For the first time in the history of Spain a woman has been given a high administrative post in the government. The notable attorney, Victoria Kent, has been named director-general of prisons. This is an honor for Spanish women and for women the world over.

Victoria Kent is tall and slender, delicately modeled, with a smile that swiftly illuminates her face. Her voice is low and distinct, the voice of one who knows

how to make herself be obeyed without shouting. She is thoroughly feminine, greatly gifted, and very human. A supporter of woman's suffrage, she says, "Of course I believe that woman should vote. She is fully capable, and is in many cases more conscious of her obligations than are many men. Women today have a culture and an ample criterion which can bear comparison without disadvantage with those of men."

Victoria Kent was the first Spanish woman to open a law office in Madrid. She was admitted to the bar a comparatively short time ago; and very soon proved to the serious gentlemen of the Palace of Justice that "Feminism" is no joke. Victoria Kent has had the attention of all Spain concentrated upon her. In the court martial held in Madrid, when the conspirators against the monarchy were on trial, she had charge of the defense of one of that group who today govern the Spanish Republic. After delivering before the court martial one of her most brilliant pleas, she expected either jail or exile. But upon proclamation of the Republic the new Government turned to her, recognizing her services toward the liberation of the country. Her nomination for office was one of the first resolutions taken by the Republic, producing fervent and widespread enthusiasm.

It was a great day for the prisoners in the jails of Spain when Victoria Kent assumed her important post. She desires to bring to the Spanish prisons her human understanding, to be just with the delinquent, firm with the criminal, gentle in authority, with maternal solicitude in mitigating suffering.

We women of Chile applaud with heartfelt admiration this great and generous soul, this woman who inspires our emulation, who will accomplish so lofty and worthy a work. I have assured her of the support of the Union Femenina of Chile, and saluted her in its name.

California Business Women's Program

THE Business Women's Legislative Council of California passed four resolutions in behalf of Equal Rights for women at their second biennial convention in Los Angeles, October 17. These endorsed State and Federal Equal Rights amendments and protested against barring married women from employment.

The resolutions follow:

"WHEREAS there was introduced at the 1931 Legislature a Senate Constitutional Amendment that, 'Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the State of California,' which amendment was not passed; and

"WHEREAS it is reasonable to anticipate that this amendment will again be introduced at the 1933 Legislature; now therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Business Women's Legislative Council of California urgently appeal to its Legislature to pass said constitutional amendment and that it endeavor by all other proper means to have the Constitution so amended; and be it further

"Resolved, That publicity be given to the resolution through the press, radio, and all other possible mediums."

"WHEREAS there appears to be a nation-wide tendency on the part of employers to discriminate against married women, and to discharge from their employ women who marry; and

"WHEREAS such policy is unfair and discriminatory and not conducive to morality of either sex; now therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Business Women's Legislative Council of California in convention assembled go on record as opposed to such action; and be it further

"Resolved, That the Council take such steps as it may deem necessary and proper to check and suppress such action; and be it further

"Resolved, That publicity be given this resolution through the press, radio and all other possible means."

"WHEREAS at present there exists great suffering on account of unemployment of both men and women; and

"WHEREAS many families, children, parents, and other relatives are dependent upon the earnings and wages of some woman;

"Resolved, That the Business Women's Legislative Council of California urge upon employers wherever possible, when selecting a qualified employee, to employ the person, regardless of sex, who has the largest number of dependents; and be it further

"Resolved, That publicity be given this resolution through the press, radio, and all other possible means."

"WHEREAS the Business Women's Legislative Council of California has endorsed the Lucretia Mott Amendment, that men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States, as the most effective and logical means of bringing about equal opportunity for both men and women in business, in industry, and in the professions; and

"WHEREAS the Council desires to do all and everything within its power to assist the movement to have said amendment passed; now therefore be it

"Resolved, That this organization send letters to the California Congressmen urging their support for the Lucretia Mott Amendment; that it ask every organization in California to endorse said amendment; that it endeavor, by all possible means, to have the said amendment adopted by both Republican and Democratic parties and incorporated in their party platforms; and be it further

"Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to all Senators and Representatives in Washington; and be it further

"Resolved, That publicity be given this resolution through the press, radio, and all other possible means."

Press Comment

Women Will Fight To Keep Jobs

New York World-Telgram, Saturday, October 10, 1931.

"WHAT do men think women are, anyhow — philanthropists or fools—that at every crisis they resort to the stupidity of trying to drive them out of their jobs?" Thus Miss Anita Pollitzer, vice-chairman of the National Woman's Party, today voiced her indignation at the recent maneuvers of certain Congressmen and business men to oust married women from the business world.

"Men want to earn all the money they can," she said. "You do not find them taking even a salary cut with particularly good grace, yet they expect a woman meekly to give up all that she has won in past years to some man regardless of his ability.

"These well-intentioned gentlemen forget that women whom they label extravagant spend the bulk of the money in this country. They prate about keeping up trade and in the same breath denounce the woman who is working for 'pin-money' to spend as she pleases."

SPEND BILLION ANNUALLY

Miss Pollitzer pointed out that an analysis made public today of the $53,000,000 estimated by Women's Bureau of the Department of Commerce spent in retail sales in 1930 showed that one-tenth could be attributed to the 10,778,794 women in gainful occupations. Using the average of expenditure, the Women's Bureau gives more than $1,000,000,000 as a

conservative estimate of the amount spent by married women who work.

"Dismissing married women from business is unsound economics. Firing one worker to make room for another does not reduce unemployment."

The Woman's Party has no quarrel with reduced wages and shorter hours, she explained, as long as the adjustment applies to men and women alike, with no discrimination against the woman worker, married or single.

As evidence of the move against married women, Miss Pollitzer quoted from a letter on her desk, written by the president of a railroad, verifying the statement that the road had ceased employing married women October 1, and that upon marriage any woman employee's connection with the company would automatically be severed.

To Drop Married Teachers

Further data included a bill introduced before the Nebraska Legislature last session providing that if the combined salaries of husband and wife were in excess of $2,000, married women teachers would be dismissed. A bill was likewise introduced in the Wisconsin Legislature prohibiting the State from employing married women.

"These bills were not passed," she went on, "but they show how the wind blows. Furthermore, after the State Employment Committee in Massachusetts recommended last winter that employers discharge married women, the First National Bank and the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company in Boston followed the suggestion.

"Women, however, will not be pushed aside without a struggle. And there are influential men and women rooting for them.

"Telegrams and cables sent out this week to men and women interested in economic and suffrage questions asking, 'Should a married woman give up her position to provide a job for the unemployed men?' were answered for the most part in the negative."

Feminist Notes

Women Medical Students

"WHILE the number of hospitals which still have no women on their staff, and are still refusing to admit women for one reason or another, is large," says *The Medical Woman's Journal,* "several interesting facts indicate that discrimination, at least against women physicians, is being replaced by a policy of Equal Rights and equal responsibilities."

These interesting facts include the news that a large number of hospitals now admit women internes on the same basis as men internes, that the 990 women medical students who registered during the 1930-31 session made that year the peak one since 1904 for registration, and that the 217 women medical graduates of the year equaled 4 per cent. of the total number of medical graduates.

One More Door Opened

WITH the appointment of Margery Louise Hoyle to the job of assistant keeper of manuscripts in the British Museum, one more government department of England has opened its doors to women executives.

Responsible jobs in twenty-one other government departments are still reserved for men, however, women being admitted only to the typing grades.

Commenting on the appointment of Miss Hoyle, the British magazine, *The Vote,* says:

"While we are glad that there is one department less without a woman officer, we certainly think that women should rapidly be appointed to the score of other departments which have hitherto been reserved for male servants."

Barring Married Doctors

ATTEMPTS to bar married women doctors from hospital staff jobs in England have met with strong opposition from the British Medical Women's Federation.

Taking up the cudgels for her sex, Lady F. M. Dickinson-Berry condemned the attempts at restriction in a speech before the Federation. She said:

"The prejudice and antagonism so rampant during suffrage days, now pent up and rendered inarticulate owing to the great change in the position of women, has been concentrating itself on an attempt to keep married women out of wage-earning and salaried posts."

She argued that if the attempt proves successful, the gains won by women in the years past will prove illusory. She was hopeful, however, that the Federation with the support of the British Medical Association can establish Equal Rights for medical men and women.

One recent attempt to deny employment to married women on the staff of the Birmingham Hospital was recently thwarted "largely because of the excellent arguments advanced by the women," according to Dr. Berry.

Judges and Jurors

FIVE saying "yes," two saying "no," and three saying nothing at all, seems to be the line-up of candidates for places on New York's Supreme Court bench or other judiciary divisions as far as the question of women jurors is concerned.

The League of Women Voters sent a questionnaire to all candidates asking their stand on women's serving on juries on the same terms as men.

Presiding Justice Edward Lazansky of the Appellate Division of the Second Department; Supreme Court Justice John V. McAvoy of the Appellate Division of the First Department; Judges Joseph E. Corrigan and John J. Freschi of the Court of General Sessions, both candidates to succeed themselves; and Supreme Court Justice Lewis L. Fawcett, a candidate for re-election in the Second Judicial District, all answered that they definitely favor women as jurors.

Judge Corrigan and Judge Freschi added that "jurors should be chosen on the basis of intelligence and character, not sex."

Of the two saying "no," Benjamin Daublin, Socialist nominee for the Supreme Court in the Second Judicial District, was much more loquacious than the other dissenter, former County Judge Lewis J. Smith of Nassau County, Republican candidate. Judge Smith was content with "No." Mr. Daublin said amazingly:

"No, no, no—hell, no. As soon as women show better intelligence, reasoning powers, smoke less, chew less, read less tabloids; in fine, become culturally better than at present, then perhaps—yes."

Edward B. La Fetra, Chief Justice of the City Court and candidate for Supreme Court, and John H. McCooey, Jr., and Meier Steinbrink, candidates for judgships in the Second District, failed to reply to the question.

German Medical Students

THE number of women medical students in Germany has increased sixfold during the last decade, from 555 in 1911 to 3,428 in 1930, while the number of men students has increased only 50 per cent. during that time, according to the Berlin correspondent of the *Journal of the American Medical Association.*

Women practicing medicine in Germany numbered only 82 in 1911, but in 1929 this had increased to 2,562 or 5 per cent. of the total number of physicians in the country at that time.

Court Clerks

ONLY two women court clerks attended the annual meeting of the Federal Courts Clerks' Association in Chicago this summer but large numbers of women deputies testified to the increasing importance of women workers in this branch of judicial service.

The two clerks, both of important districts, are Margaret Cowgill of the Northern Indiana District at South Bend, and May Sickmon of the Western District of New York at Buffalo.

There are 130 court clerks in the United

States, all being appointed by judges of the various districts and, since the judge's job is a life-time one, the clerk's position is virtually permanent. Only three of the 130 are women.

Mrs. Cowgill is thought to be the youngest Federal Court clerk in the country, beginning as a deputy in a county court at Marion, Indiana. Four years ago seh was appointed clerk by Judge T. W. Slick when a new Federal district was formed in the State. Five deputies work under her and she has offices in Hammond and Fort Wayne as well as in South Bend.

News from the Field

Cuba and the Philippines

CUBAN FEMINISTS have not abandoned their hopes of eventually winning the right to vote, despite the bitter opposition of the administration, Alicia Brull de Reisler told members of the National Woman's Party at a tea given Sunday, November 24, at Alva Belmont House.

Mme. Reisler took an active part in the work of the Allianza National Feminista before her departure from Cuba and has plans for its future activities, though she did not divulge them, "because I am afraid the Government would not allow me to land."

Quite a different picture of the attitude of the Philippines toward Feminism was drawn by another speaker at the Sunday program, Hazel Clarke Taylor, who spent six years at Manila as a teacher.

On her voyage to the Philippines Mrs. Taylor asked her husband, who had visited the Islands before, to describe the Philippine women to her. He answered in detail, decribing the billowing cotton dresses with their puffed sleeves and butterfly-like effect, the heelless slippers, and the quaint coiffeurs — omitting nothing, except the keys.

For Philippine women wear the family keys at their waists. This to Mrs. Taylor is a symbol of their commanding station as steward, keeper of the pantry, the clothes tree, and the family treasury.

Women have a practical monopoly on native business, presiding over their small street shops and stalls with shrewd success while their husbands sing lullabies to their babies. It is not that the Philippine woman is an unnatural mother (if she errs in any way it is toward indulgence), but simply that she is an acknowledged superior to the male in business, according to Mrs. Taylor.

She has known Philippine women successfully running six businesses at once and is convinced that they have talents in this direction superior to the men.

And this state of affairs is apparently accepted as fitting and proper by the men. At least Mrs. Taylor found in her teaching that boys and girls alike preferred stories in which the woman triumphed over the man. When planning to produce a play, for instance, they utterly refused to put on "The Taming of the Shrew," but of Portia they were extremely fond.

She also observed that the Philippine girl who made the wittiest replies and caused laughter at her boy friend's expense was the most popular, and that the native belle is not expected to be beautiful and dumb.

Josephine Casey to Speak

THE New York City Committee of the National Woman's Party has issued invitations for a meeting at the home of Ruth Vandeer Litt, 71 Park avenue, New York City, Monday evening, November 16, at 8.15 o'clock, when Josephine Casey, shop worker and member of the Industrial Council of the Woman's Party, will speak on "How the carrying out of the great principle of the Woman's Party has enabled thousands of women mill workers to be housed, fed and clothed this winter."

Progress of Paraguayan Women

PARAGUAYAN women have recently advanced to the point where they hold as many teaching positions as men in their native schools, which were not long ago closed to them.

This encouraging news of Feminist progress in South America was brought to members of the National Woman's Party by Carmen G. de Ynsfrán at a tea given in her honor Sunday, October 19, in Alva Belmont House in Washington.

Sra. Ynsfrán, despite her youth, has been one of the leaders in the emancipation of her countrywomen, and was recently appointed as official representative of Paraguay on the Inter-American Commission of Women.

She said that a great interest had been roused in Paraguay by the agitation for Equal Rights for men and women and expressed her pleasure at being able to represent her country on the Inter-American Commission.

Her remarks were translated by her husband. Pablo M. Ynsfrán, chargé d'affairs of Paraguay, who, like Sra. Ynsfrán, is an ardent Feminist. He expressed his own pleasure at Sra. Ynsfrán's appointment to the Commission, prophesying that Paraguay's participation in the Inter-American Feminist movement would greatly advance the cause of Feminism in Paraguay.

Another speaker at the tea Sunday was Alicia Brull Reissler of Cuba. Sra. Reissler reported the compulsory dissolution of the Cuban Feminist Alliance due to Government orders during the political unrest of recent months and regretted that her countrywomen had not been able to take advantage of the situation to demand their right to the vote.

An interesting and appropriate feature of the afternoon's entertainment was the serving of Paraguayan tea, yerba mate. Sra. Ynsfrán presided at the tea table and was assisted by Mrs. H. M. Waters, a native of Argentina.

For those who wished to drink the tea in native Paraguayan fashion, gaily painted gourds took the place of cups, though the usual china was provided for less adventurous souls.

Guests at the tea were invited to attend the performance of the "Unknown Warrior," featuring Maurice Browne, at the Belasco Theatre in Washington on October 25. This was sponsored by the National Woman's Party, which had a share in the proceeds of tickets sold by members.

Dorcy Cole Reviews

HEADLONG, by Genevieve Parkhurst. Published by Henry Holt & Company, New York.

The fight for economic independence and personal freedom among women goes on unceasingly. As we glance around we see numbers of successful women in every field, but it is seldom that we realize the grilling hardships thy have undergone to attain mere recognition.

In *Headlong* Mrs. Parkhurst gives us the story of Victoria Mead, one of the vast army of modern young women who, disappointed in an early marriage, plunges headlong into the business of supporting herself and her two infant children. Throughout her life she is beset with the trials that come to the woman who dares to go out on her own. She is scorned by her relatives and looked at askance by her friends, but her undying faith and her determination to win help her through the long fight. Not only does the story deal with the actual barriers a woman encounters in the economic world, but also with the emotional life of the heroine, her love affairs and the discriminations against her because she has the courage to live according to her own standards and ideals.

The book is well written and is important because it is an authentic representation of the modern woman in this particular phase of our civilization.

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